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The State Justice Institute awards grants to improve judicial administration in the State courts of the United States.

The State Justice Institute was created by the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701) as a private, nonprofit corporation to further the development and improvement of judicial administration in the State courts.

The Institute is supervised by a Board of Directors consisting of 11 members appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Board is statutorily composed of six judges, a State court administrator, and four members of the public, of whom no more than two can be of the same political party.

The goals of the Institute are to fulfill the following duties:

- —direct a national program of assistance to ensure that all U.S. citizens have ready access to a fair and effective judicial system;
- —foster coordination and cooperation with the Federal judiciary;
- —serve as a clearinghouse and information center for the dissemination

of information regarding State judicial systems; and

—encourage education for judges and support personnel of State court systems.

To accomplish these broad objectives, the Institute is authorized to provide funds, through grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts, to State courts and organizations that can assist in the achievement of improving judicial administration of the State courts.

Sources of Information

Inquiries concerning grants, publications, consumer information, speakers, or Privacy Act/Freedom of Information Act requests should be directed to the Executive Director or Deputy Director, State Justice Institute, Suite 600, 1650 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone, 703–684–6100.

Information regarding the programs and services of the State Justice Institute is also available through the Internet at www.sji.gov.

For further information, contact the State Justice Institute, Suite 600, 1650 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone, 703-684-6100. Internet, www.sji.gov.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

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The United States Institute of Peace promotes research, policy analysis, education, and training on international peace and conflict resolution.

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) is an independent institution, established by Congress pursuant to title XVII of the Defense Authorization Act of 1985, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4601-4611). USIP's mission is to help prevent

and resolve violent conflicts, promote post-conflict stablility and development, and increase peacebuilding capacity, tools, and intellectual capital worldwide. The Institute achieves this by empowering others with knowledge,

skills, and resources, as well as by directly engaging in peacebuilding throughout the world.

The Institute is governed by a bipartisan board of directors appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The board is comprised of members from outside the Federal service, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the President of the National Defense University. The board appoints the President of the Institute.

Programs and Activities

In carrying out its mission, USIP operates on the ground in conflict zones, providing services that include:

—mediating and facilitating dialog among parties in conflict;

—building conflict management skills

and capacity;
—indentifying and disseminating best practices in conflict management;

—promoting the rule of law;—reforming and strengthening

education systems;

—strengthening civil society and statebuilding; and

—educating the public through film, radio, the Internet, special events, and other outreach activities.

The Institute conducts and sponsors relevant research on causes of and solutions to violent conflict. Drawing on this intellectual capital, USIP identifies promising models and innovative approaches and practices. USIP shares these tools with others through its publications, the Internet, and training programs. Tools developed by USIP include book series on international mediation and cultural negotiating behavior, resources on religious peacemaking, a toolkit for promoting the rule of law in fragile states, guidelines for civilian and military interactions in hostile environments, and textbooks on international conflict management.

USIP works in partnership with nongovernmental organizations, higher and secondary educational institutions, and internatinoal organizations to promote collaborative problem-solving through conferences, standing working groups, Track II diplomacy, and special events. The Institute offers training on conflict management, including mediation and negotiating skills, for government and military personnel, civil society leaders, and staff of non-governmental and international organizations.

As part of its efforts to strengthen and professionalize the field of international conflict management, the Institute shares the resources and tools it has developed with the larger conflict management community. In conflict zones, USIP works in partnership with local organizations to build their capacity and promote sustainability. The Institute also extends its reach by investing in nonprofit organizations in the United States and overseas. Recent efforts include Afghanistan, Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Korea, Liberia, Syria, and Sudan.

Strategic Centers

The Institute includes strategic centers focused on preventing violent conflicts before they occur, mediating and resolving conflicts when they do occur, and promoting post-conflict stability once the fighting ends. The efforts of these cross-disciplinary centers focus on education, training, grantmaking, fellowships, scholarships, and innovation in peacebuilding (e.g. rule of law; religon and peacemaking; science and technology in peacebuilding; media and conflict; and sustainable economies).

Sources of Information

Electronic access to the Institute is available through the Internet at www.usip.org.

For further information, contact the Office of Public Affairs and Communications, United States Institute of Peace, 1200 Seventeenth Street NW., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036–3011. Phone, 202–457–1700. Fax, 202–429–6063. Internet, www.usip.org.